(b) whether the Maharashtra Cooperative Flower Development Society has requested the Government to start regular flights from Pune to Sharjah, from where the bloom will be flown to Holland, the main world market for lowers; and

(c) if so, the action taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM): (a) Europe is importing flowers from all over the world and the share of India in such import is less than 1%.

(b) No such request appears to have been received.

(c) Does not arise.

Corruption Charges Against Senior Manager of S.T.C. and M.M.T.C.

*533. SHRI GOPALSINH G. SOLANKI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that some Senior Managers in S.T.C. and M.M.T.C. are seriously involved in more than one CBI inquiry or cases on charges of corruption;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the reasons for allowing such corrupt Managers to continue in service;

(d) whether Government have ever made inquiries into the assets of such identified corrupt managers;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. Status of cases covered under CBI inquiry or otherwise as intimated by STC & MMTC are given in the enclosed statement (*See* below). The cases reflected in the enclosed statement are at various stages of investigation/enquiry. (*See* below).

(d) to (f) STC requested CBI in Feb., 1996 to make inquiries into the assets of a Marketing Manager involved in two CBI cases and who has been under suspension since 10.1.1996.

Statement

Details of cases of corruption against some senior Managers of STC and MMTC pending with C.B.I.

Sl. No.	Subejct	Status position
	M M T C	
1.	Assignment as Member (F), International Airport Authority of India	Director (F), MMTC was searched on 5.2.1997 by CBI. CBI registered a case on 3.2.1997 with reference to some case relating to his earlier assignment while working in International Airport Authority.
2.	Marine product Export Associate of Regional office, Madras	Three RC was registered in Feb./March, '96 against Shri V.P. Radhakrishnan CGM in respect of (i) M/s. Karthick Fisheries Pvt. Ltd. (ii) M/s. Vijay Sea Food International and (iii) M/s. Fine Food packers. CBI investigation reports have been received for (i) & (ii). No action is recommended against the Officer, who retired on 30th April, 1996.

Sl. No.	Subejct	Status position
		Report is awaited for M/s. Fine Food Packers.
3.	Loading of high grade iron ore	Preliminary Enquiry registered on 24.2.1997 by CBI against Shri J.N. Sablania, CGM for loading of high grade iron ore per vsl. Tramo Amity against the contracted 'Low Grade'.
4.	M/s. Bhola Ram Girdharilal, Jewellery Exporter	MMTC has been informed on 7.5.1997 that the case has been registered against Shri Y.N. Bhargava, CGM in the case of M/s. Bhola Ram Girdharilal, a jewellery exporter with outstanding of US $17634 plus 23 Kg gold.
5.	Hiring of Taxi	Regular Case is registered on 28.6.1995 against Shri S. Thakur, General Manager for hiring of taxi at Corporate Office.
6.	M/s. Bhola Ram Girdharilal, Jewellery Exporter	MMTC has been informed on 7.5.1997 that a case has been registered against Shri P.S. Sastry in the case of M/s. Bhola Ram Girdharilal, a jewellery exporter with outstanding of US $17634 plus 23 Kg gold.
7.	Acceptance of fake BG as security	RC is registered on 30.9.1996 against Shri Sita Ram, Deputy General Manager for accepting fake Bank Guarantee as security for delivery of non-ferrous metal at Sub regional Office, Jaipur.
8.	As indicated in Sl. No. (2) above	CBI has recommended Regular Departmental action for major penalty in the case of M/s. Karthick Fisheries Pvt. Ltd. and Regular Departmental action for minor penalty in the case of M/s. Vijay Seafood International for Shri M. Balakrishnan and Shri R.S. Balasubramanian, Dy. General Managers. The two CBI reports received have not indicated criminal misconduct against the officers. Report in the case of M/s. Fine Food Packers is awaited.
9.	Loading of high grade iron ore	PE registered against Shri A.K. Kandi, Dy. General Manager alongwith Shri J.N. Sablania, CGM as indicated at Sl. No. (3).
10.	Credit Sales of Fertilizers	RC was registered on 29.2.1996 against Shri Marri Prasad, Senior Manager, for credit sales of fertilizers to select dealers of Vijayawada. CBI has not found any malafide action on the part of the officer in

Sl. No.	Subejct	Status position
		their investigations. However, Regular Departmental action for major penalty is recommended against the officer which has been initiated.
		STC
1.	Deals for import of newsprint with M/s. Meteor Paper Ltd., London.	On account of a dispute in regard to declaration of the origin of country, manufacturers' certificate etc. the case was referred to CBI by STC and the CBI registered the same on 13.11.92. CBI have got the Letter Rogatory issued for undertaking the investigation in London. CBI has intimated STC on 20.1.1997 that part investigation report is still awaited from U.K.
2.	Import of glazed newsprint from M/s. FINNPAP, Finland	On account of alleged acts of corruption concerning import of glazed newsprint from M/s. FINNPAP, Finland by certain STC Officials, the matter was referred to CBI which registered the case on 7.5.1992. CBI have recommended the closure of the case in its report dated 11.10.1994.
3.	Contents of the letter sent by the then Branch Manager, STC, London concerning M/s. Meteor Paper Ltd., London	Based on a letter sent by the then Branch Manager STC, London allegedly indicating therein that there was no newsprint production in Hungary, STC decided to refer the matter to CBI for an inquiry on 28.9.1993. CBI are looking into the matter since the case is inter-related with the case as at Sl. No. 1 above.
4.	Newsprint deal with M/s. Universal Paper Export Co., Canada	On account of the seizure of the consignment of newsprint from Canada which arrived at Bombay port on 12.6.1991 on the charge that the same had been mis-declared as glazed newsprint to seek concession on import duty, the case was referred to CBI on 21.6.1993 for a thorough investigation. CBI have concluded that the matter is not fit for investigation vide its report dated 9.8.1995.
5.	Import of sugar from M/s. GOLDDETZPER VESSEL SARA-D	On account of loss of sugar cargo due to collision of the cargo vessel with another one and its sinking thereafter, an internal inquiry was conducted in the matter. As decided, the case was referred to CBI on

Sl. No.	Subject	Status position
		12.11.1993 and CBI registered a case on 23.12.1994 against Col. A.D. Malhotra, the then Regional Manager, STC, London and others. CBI has intimated STC on 11.2.1997 that the matter is under investigation.
6.	Import of Russian Newsprint by STC	On the basis of an internal inquiry into the allegations against STC managers in Russian newsprint import deal, CVC advised the CBI to take up the investigation in the matter. With the concurrence of the MOC, a criminal case was registered on 5.1.1996. In their latest progress report dated 9.1.1997, CBI have intimated that the investigation is at a crucial stage.
7.	CBI verification of the deal pertaining to import of palmolein by STC from Malaysia	On the basis of allegations levelled by Shri S.P. Malaviya in Nov. 1993 for gross irregularities pertaining to import of 30,000 MTs of palmolein in Sept. 1993, an internal vigilance inquiry was conducted and a detailed inquiry report was submitted on 25.8.1994. CBI, Delhi hav. requisitioned the inquiry report which was forwarded on 20.4.1995. Outcome is awaited. Meanwhile, CBI, Madras was asked to investigate the alleged contamination of the consignment as it had created financial problems for STC. In its report, the CBI recommended departmental action against the officials of Govt. laboratories who allegedly issued wrong laboratory report.
8.	Complaint made by Dr. Ravi Mallu reg. allegations of irregularities against certain officers in STC.	Major penalty proceedings against the concerned Chief Marketing Manager of STC for misuse of authority and corrupt practices have been ordered by STC.
9.	Alleged lapses in the rice shipments from STC, Madras to Bangladesh	CVC vide its letter dt. 20.5.1996 ordered a vigilance inquiry into the acts of omission and commission by STC, Madras branch. CMD, STC conveyed his final views on the outcome of the inquiry reports to MOC on 8.2.1997. CVC have found that the lapses on the part of a Senior Manager appear to be administrative in nature and while giving vigilance clearance to the Min. of Commerce has directed that if there are specific lapses against the said manager, major penalty proceedings may be initiated.

Sl. No.	Subject	Status position
		CBI vide its letter dt. 23.4.1996 have also requisitioned all relevant documents/files for secret verification which were handed over to CBI by STC on 11th June, 1996 and 19th July, 1996 respectively. CBI vide its letter dt. 10.4.1997 have sought additional information/documents from STC, which are being supplied.
10.	Export of plastic garbage bags to M/s. International Leather Co., Dubai	STC has referred the matter to CBI on 8.11.1996 for looking into any criminal liability of the concerned officials of STC.
11.	Alleged FERA violations by STC and ZEE TV	STC has referred the matter to CBI on 5.12.1996 to pin-point the criminal liability or otherwise of the concerned STC officials.
12.	Import of sugar in 1994—extension of huge financial assistance to M/s. Kesar Enterprises, Bombay	CBI Bombay have registered preliminary Enquiry (PE) in the matter on 14.9.1995 and the outcome is awaited.
13.	Import of sugar by STC through M/s. Andre & CIE, Switzerland	Director, CBI has recommended registration of a regular case vide letter dt. 17.2.1997. Govt. have given concurrence to CBI for registration of a regular case against STC Officials including Director (F), STC. Director (F), STC has also been placed under suspension w.e.f. 1.4.1997. Two other accused persons are already under suspension w.e.f. 10.1.1996.
14.	Urea imports by STC	CBI have requisitioned all relevant files/ documents concerning urea imports by STC. CBI vide its letter dt. 9.4.1997 have informed STC that the information called for from the Corporation was merely to know the procedure by STC while importing urea. No case concerning STC's urea import is under investigation.

Sky TV giving publicity to DTH in spite of Government Notification

*534. SHRI M.A. BABY: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it has been brought to the notice of Government that inspite of the notification of Government against giving permission to the Direct to Home (DTH) technology in India, the Sky TV is proceeding with introduction of DTH technology in India with wide publicity through media; and

(b) if so, the steps being contemplated by Government to deal with this extraordinary situation and how cultural invasion by this technology can be prevented?